

博士研究生入学考试辅导用书

考博英语

阅读理解精粹 100 篇

博士研究生入学考试辅导用书
编审委员会

编著

- ✓ 选题广泛、注解全面，内容涉猎社会科学、自然科学各个领域
- ✓ 有效拓展词汇，系统提升长难句分析技能，把握命题思路和解题技巧
- ✓ 由难到易，循序渐进，引领考生迅速跨越阅读障碍



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博士研究生入学考试辅导用书

考博英语阅读理解 精粹 100 篇

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英语考试在博士研究生入学考试中占有举足轻重的地位，而阅读理解是英语考试中的“重中之重”。本书选材系统、全面，具体内容涉及科学技术、经济管理、教育文化、社会生活、环境生态、政治历史、医学保健、宗教信仰、新闻艺术等诸多方面，可以让考生系统见证考博英语阅读理解材料，强化英语背景知识，在阅读理解考试中轻松取得高分。

本书读者范围：参加博士研究生入学考试的广大考生，同时也可以作为参加普通研究生入学考试的广大考生自学辅导之用。

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前 言

我国自 1981 年建立学位制度以来,全国博士招生人数从 2000 年的 2.4 万人上升到 2004 年的 5.3 万人。博士生毕业人数在 2000 年已超过 10 万人。据此分析,今后国内博士生招收人数还将略有增加。从整体上看,由于博士生招生形势的不断发展,各院校博士生入学考试的难度越来越大,对考生的外语要求也越来越高,特别是听说能力。

目前,我国博士生英语入学考试采取的是各招生院校自行命题、自行组织考试的办法,各个院校的考试重点、命题特点有相当大的不同。目前国内没有统一的考试大纲,主要是由于国内没有对博士生入学英语考试采取统考形式。英语考试是考生参加博士生入学考试道路上最大的障碍和挑战。许多考生并非由于专业课的缘故,而是英语考试未达到所报考学校最低录取分数线,而与自己理想的学校失之交臂。外语成绩一直是衡量考生入选博士研究生的最重要的尺度。

博士生入学考试中的英语考试是重头戏。许多考生其他科目的考分都很高,但是英语考试却成了他们考试的瓶颈。许多考生由于有几年的工作经历,工作并非在英语环境中,所以对英语有几分生疏,英语考试也就很自然的成为了一大难题。阅读理解是英语考试中的“重中之重”,该部分在整个试卷中的分值最高,而且阅读理解能力也是做好其他部分的基础。在复习英语时,把阅读理解作为考试的切入点,可以“一箭双雕”,对于提高考生的整体英语水平具有重要的意义。为此,我们倾力推出这本《考博英语阅读理解精粹 100 篇》。

本书由三部分组成,遵循了由易到难、循序渐进的原则,从难度适中、篇幅较短的基础技能训练,到难度逼近真题或者略高于真题的实战演练。考生经过了这 100 篇的系统强化训练之后,对于考博英语阅读理解应该是胜券在握了。

第一部分为基础训练 40 篇,可以作为考生复习的基础训练阅读材料。这部分总体特点可以概括为选题广泛、话题新颖、注解全面。在选编文章题材、体裁方面尽可能拓展空间。广泛涉猎,包括社会科学、自然科学等各个领域的知识。可以让考生系统见证考博英语阅读理解材料,强化英语背景知识。

第二部分为模拟提高 40 篇,其内容难度较大,是考生在复习提高阅读理解能力阶段磨练思路、熟悉题型、扩充词汇的最佳练习材料,有利于解题能力的迅速提高。

第三部分为冲刺演练 20 篇,本部分阅读理解材料仿真度极高,供考生在最后冲刺阶段进行热身演练。

广泛的阅读可以提高考生的阅读理解能力,也可以巩固和提高语言应用能力,达到事半功倍的目的。考生在备考阶段应该熟记相关词汇、透彻理解文章,对题目解析和长难句分析应该细心揣摩,领悟考博阅读的出题思路和解题技巧。

编撰此书的初衷就是力求提高考生的应试水平和阅读理解能力,不辜负考生的期望和对知识追求的挚诚。本书从选题、编写到完稿历时一年多,几易其稿。由于作者才疏学浅,纰漏之处敬请同行和读者批评指正。

博士研究生入学考试辅导用书编审委员会

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第一部分 基础训练 40 篇

Unit 1

Text 1

In recent years many countries of the world have been faced with the problem of how to make their workers more productive. Some experts claim the answer is to make jobs more varied. But do more varied jobs lead to greater productivity? There is evidence to suggest that while variety certainly makes the workers' life more enjoyable, it does not actually make them work harder. As far as increasing productivity is concerned, then variety is not an important factor.

Other experts feel that giving the workers freedom to do their jobs in their own way is important and there is no doubt that this is true. The problem is that this kind of freedom cannot easily be given in the modern factory with its complicated machinery which must be used in a fixed way. Thus while freedom of choice may be important, there is usually very little that can be done to create it. Another important consideration is how much each worker contributes to the product he is making. In most factories bosses are now experimenting with having many small production lines rather than one large one, so that each worker contributes more to the production of the cars on his line. It would seem that not only is degree of worker contribution an important factor, but it is also one we can do something about.

To what extent does more money lead to greater productivity? The workers themselves certainly think this important. But perhaps they want more only because the work they do is so boring. Money just lets them enjoy their spare time more. A similar argument may explain demands for shorter working hours. Perhaps if we succeed in making their jobs more interesting, they will neither want more, nor will shorter working hours be so important to them.

1. Which of these possible factors leading to greater productivity is NOT true?
 - A. To make jobs more varied.
 - B. To give the workers freedom to do their jobs in their own way.
 - C. Degree of worker contribution.
 - D. Demands of longer working hours.
2. Why do workers want more money?
 - A. Because their jobs are too boring.
 - B. In order to enjoy more spare time.
 - C. To make their jobs more interesting.
 - D. To demand shorter working hours.
3. The last sentence in this passage means that if we succeed in making workers' jobs more

interesting _____.

- A. they will want more money
 B. they will demand shorter working hours are important factors
 C. more money and shorter working hours are important factors
 D. more money and shorter working hours will not be so important to them
4. In this passage, the author tells us _____.
- A. how to make the workers more productive
 B. impossible factors leading to greater efficiency
 C. to what extent more money leads to greater productivity
 D. how to make workers' jobs more interesting

核心词汇注释

productive [prə'dʌktɪv] *adj.* 生产性的, 生产的, 能产的, 多产的

expert ['ekspɜ:t] *n.* 专家, 行家, [军](特等) 射手

adj. 老练的, 内行的, 专门的

vt. 在……中当行家, 当专家

varied ['veərɪd] *adj.* 杂色的, 各式各样的

productivity [prɒdʌk'tɪvɪti] *n.* 生产力

evidence ['eɪdəns] *n.* 明显, 显著, 明白, 迹象, 根据, [物]证据, 证物

complicated ['kɒmplɪkeɪtɪd] *adj.* 复杂的, 难解的

production [prə'dʌkʃ(ə)n] *n.* 生产, 产品, 作品, (研究) 成果

contribution [kɒntri'bju:ʃən] *n.* 捐献, 贡献, 投稿

boring ['bɔ:riŋ] *n.* 钻(孔)

adj. 令人厌烦的

argument ['ɑ:gjʊmənt] *n.* (for, against) 争论, 辩论, 论据, 论点, 意见

长难句剖析

【文章难句】In recent years many countries of the world have been faced with the problem of how to make their workers more productive.

【结构分析】本句中, in recent years 作时间状语, 主干是 many countries...have been faced with the problem, of 短语用来修饰 problem, 这个短语中 of 的宾语是特殊疑问词 how 引导的复合式不定式。

【参考译文】近年来, 世界上许多国家都面临着如何提高工人生产率的问题。

【文章难句】Other experts feel that giving the workers freedom to do their jobs in their own way is important and there is no doubt that this is true.

【结构分析】本句的主干是 Other experts feel that...and there is no doubt, 谓语动词是 feel, 后接由 that 引导的宾语从句。从句中主语是动名词 giving...way, is 是系动词。

【参考译文】其他专家认为重要的是要给工人自由, 让他们以自己的方式工作, 这无疑是正确的。

【文章难句】The problem is that this kind of freedom cannot easily be given in the modern factory with its complicated machinery which must be used in a fixed way.

【结构分析】本句的主干是 The problem is that, 后接由 that 引导的表语从句。在表语从句中主干是一个普通被动句, with its complicated machinery 是后置定语, 用来修饰 factory。which 引导的是个定语从句, 用来修饰 machinery。

【参考译文】问题是现代工厂有复杂的机器, 必须按固定的方法使用, 在这样的工厂, 提供给工人自由并不容易。

全文参考译文

世界上许多国家近年来都面临着如何提高工人生产率的问题。有些专家声称, 让工作更加富有变化是解决问题的方法。但更富有变化的工作就能产生更高的生产效率吗? 有证据显示, 变化当然可以让工人的生活更加快乐, 但它并不能使工人们更加努力地工作。就提高生产效率而言, 工作变化不是一个重要的因素。

其他一些专家的见解是, 重要的是要给工人自由, 让他们以自己的方式工作, 这无疑是正确的。问题是现代工厂有复杂的机器, 必须按固定的方法使用, 在这样的工厂, 提供给工人自由并不容易。虽然选择的自由很重要, 但通常无法创造这样的自由。另外一个很关键的考虑是每个工人可以给他所生产的产品带来多大的作用。在大多数工厂里, 老板尝试使用多条小型生产线而非一整条大型生产线, 这样的话每个工人就能为线上的汽车生产做出更大的贡献。看来好像不仅工人的劳动强度是一个重要的因素, 而且也要看我们能够做些什么。

要想产生更高的生产效率, 工资要提高到什么程度呢? 工人本人当然认为这一点很重要。但有可能他们想要更多的钱只是因为他们所做的工作非常令人厌烦。钱只会让他们更好地享受闲暇时光。缩短工作时间的要求也可以用这一论点解释。或许如果我们能够让他们的的工作更加有趣, 他们不仅不会要求更多的薪水, 而且缩短工作时间对他们来说也不是那么重要了。

题目答案与解析

1. 以下会产生更高生产率的因素中, 哪一项是错误的?
- A. 使工作细化。 B. 给工人们按自己的方式工作的自由。
C. 劳动强度。 D. 更长工作时间的需求。

【答案】D

【解析】从文中内容可知, D 项(延长工作时间)在第三段最后提到, 但文中提到的是缩短工作时间, 与 D 项相反, 因此 D 项为正确答案。

2. 工人们想要得到更多的钱是为什么?

- A. 因为他们的工作太枯燥。 B. 为了享受更多的空闲时间。
C. 为了使他们的工作更加有趣。 D. 为了要求更短的工作时间。

【答案】A

【解析】本题的依据句是第三段的第三句话 But perhaps they want more only because the work they do is so boring, 因此 A 项为正确答案。

3. 文中最后一句话的含义是, 如果我们成功地使工人的工作更加有趣, _____。

- A. 他们将要更多的钱
 B. 他们将要求缩短工作时间
 C. 更多的钱和更少的工作时间都是重要因素
 D. 更多的钱和更少的工作时间对他们都不那么重要了

【答案】D

【解析】本题的依据句是 Perhaps if we succeed in making their jobs more interesting, they will neither want more, nor will shorter working hours be so important to them. 从中可知 D 项为正确答案。短语 neither...nor...的意思是“既不……也不……”。

4. 在这篇文章中, 作者告诉我们_____。

- A. 怎样提高工人生产率
 B. 造成高生产率的不可能因素
 C. 花的钱越多, 生产率越高
 D. 怎样使工人的工作更加有趣

【答案】A

【解析】综观全文, 这是一篇如何使工人更加有效地工作的文章, 因此 A 项为正确答案。B 项明显是错误的。而 C 和 D 两项仅是文章部分段落的中心思想, 不是全文的中心思想。

Text 2

The Internet can make the news more democratic, giving the public a chance to ask question and seek out facts behind stories and candidates, according to the head of the largest US on-line service.

“But the greatest potential for public participation is still in the future,” Steven Case, Chairman of America On-line, told a recent meeting on Journalism and the Internet sponsored by the Freedom Forum (讨论会). However, some other experts often say the new technology of computers is changing the face of journalism, giving reporters access to more information and their readers a chance to ask questions and turn to different sources.

“You don’t have to buy a newspaper and be confined to the four corners of that paper any more,” Sam Meddis, on-line technology editor at USA Today, observed about the variety of information available to computer users.

But the experts noted the easy access to the Internet also means anyone can post information for others to see. “Anyone can say anything they want, whether it’s right or wrong,” said Case. Readers have to determine for themselves who to trust. “In a world of almost infinite voices, respected journalists and respected brand names will probably become more important, not less,” Case said.

“The Internet today is about where radio was 80 years ago, or television 50 years ago or cable 25 years ago,” he said. But it is growing rapidly because it provides people fast access to news and a chance to comment on it.

1. The main topic of this passage is _____.

- A. the development of journalism
 B. the rapid development of the Internet
 C. the effect the Internet has on journalism
 D. the advantages of the Internet

2. It can be inferred from this passage that the fact that _____ may NOT be regarded as an advantage of the Internet.
- A. the news can be made more democratic
B. the public can turn to different sources
C. the public can get a chance to ask questions
D. anything can be posted on the Internet for others to see
3. The correct order for the appearance of the four technologies is _____.
- A. Internet-cable-television-radio B. Radio-television-cable-Internet
C. Radio-cable-television-Internet D. Television-radio-cable-Internet
4. Which of the following statements is true?
- A. Only respected journalists can post information on the Internet for others to see.
B. Respected journalists will probably become more important than before.
C. Everyone is using the Internet now.
D. The greatest potential of public participation of the Internet is in the near future.

核心词汇注释

democratic [ˌdɛməˈkrætɪk] *adj.* 民主的, 民主主义的, 民主政体的, 平民的

candidate [ˈkændɪdɪt] *n.* 候选人, 投考者

participation [pɑːtɪsɪˈpeɪʃən] *n.* 分享, 参与

journalism [ˈdʒɜːnəlɪz(ə)m] *n.* 新闻业, 报章杂志

sponsor [ˈspɒnsə(r)] *n.* 发起人, 保证人, 主办人

vt. 发起, 主办

v. 赞助

confined [kənˈfaɪnd] *adj.* 被限制的, 狭窄的, 分娩的

access [ˈækses] *n.* 通路, 访问, 入门
vt. 存取, 接近

infinite [ˈɪnfənɪt] *n.* 无限的东西 (如空间、时间), [数]无穷大

adj. 无穷的, 无限的, 无数的, 极大的

journalist [ˈdʒɜːnəlɪst] *n.* 新闻记者, 从事新闻杂志业的人

comment [ˈkɒment] *n.* 注释, 评论, 意见
vi. 注释, 评论

长难句剖析

【文章难句】The Internet can make the news more democratic, giving the public a chance to ask question and seek out facts behind stories and candidates, according to the head of the largest US on-line service.

【结构分析】本句中, 主干是 The Internet can make the news more democratic, 后面的现在分词结构 giving the public...candidates 做主句的状语, 表示方式。according to 是整个句子的插入语成分。

【参考译文】据美国一家最大的在线服务商的总裁说, 互联网可以通过给公众机会提问并找出事件和候选人背后的事实, 而让新闻更加民主。

【文章难句】The Internet today is about where radio was 80 years ago, or television 50 years

ago or cable 25 years ago.

【结构分析】本句是一个主系表结构, The Internet today 作主语, is 是系动词, where 引导的从句做表语。表语是由三个从句构成的, 后两个采用了省略形式。

【参考译文】现在的互联网处于起步阶段, 就像是 80 年前的收音机、50 年前的电视机或 25 年前的有线电视一样。

【文章难句】“You don't have to buy a newspaper and be confined to the four corners of that paper any more”, Sam Meddis, on-line technology editor at USA Today, observed about the variety of information available to computer users.

【结构分析】本句中, 主干是 Sam Meddis...observed, 介宾短语 about...users 做动词 observed 的状语。引号中的句子是直接引语。

【参考译文】《今日美国》的在线技术编辑 Sam Meddis 对电脑使用者可获得各种各样的信息评论道, “你再也没必要买报纸了, 你的信息不再局限于四四方方的报纸上。”

全文参考译文

根据美国一家最大的在线服务商的总裁说, 通过给公众机会提问并找出事件和候选人背后的事实, 互联网可以让新闻更加民主。

“不过公众参与的最大潜力还有待挖掘”。在最近由自由论坛发起的讨论关于新闻和互联网的会议上, 美国在线的主席 Steven Case 这样说道。然而, 其他一些专家常说这种电脑新科技正在改变新闻的面貌, 它让记者们能够得到更多的信息, 公众也有机会提出疑问并能求助于不同的信息来源。

《今日美国》的在线技术编辑 Sam Meddis 对电脑使用者可获得各种各样的信息评论道, “你再也没必要买报纸了, 你的信息不再局限于四四方方的报纸上。”

但是专家注意到, 互联网的便捷也意味着任何人都可以发布信息供他人阅读。Case 说, “任何人可以想说什么就说什么, 不管他的言论是否正确”。读者必须自行决定应该相信谁。“在一个充满着无限种声音的世界里, 受人尊重的记者和品牌将有可能变得更加重要”, Case 又说。

他说, “现在的互联网正处于起步阶段, 就像是 80 年前的收音机、50 年前的电视机或 25 年前的有线电视一样。”但因为它可以给人们提供快捷的信息和参与评论的机会, 互联网将会飞速发展。

题目答案与解析

1. 本文的主旨是 _____。

A. 新闻业的发展

B. 互联网的快速发展

C. 互联网对新闻业产生的影响

D. 互联网的优势

【答案】C

【解析】综观全文, 这篇文章主要是讲互联网对新闻的影响, 因此 C 项为正确答案。

2. 从文中可以推断出, _____ 因素不能认为是互联网的优点。

A. 新闻可以变得更加民主

B. 公众可以求助于不同的信息来源

- C. 公众有提出问题的机会
D. 任何东西都可以发布在互联网上让别人看

【答案】D

【解析】本题的依据句是文章的第四段 “Anyone can say anything they want, whether it's right or wrong,” said Case. Readers have to determine for themselves who to trust. 从中可知 D 项为正确答案。

3. 四种技术出现的正确次序是 _____。
- A. 互联网——有线电视——电视机——收音机
B. 收音机——电视机——有线电视——互联网
C. 收音机——有线电视——电视——互联网
D. 电视机——收音机——有线电视——互联网

【答案】B

【解析】本题可参照文章的最后一段，从中可知正确的次序是 B 项。

4. 以下各项陈述中，哪一项是正确的？
- A. 只有受尊敬的记者才可以在互联网上发布信息给别人看。
B. 受尊敬的记者将可能比以前更加重要。
C. 现在每个人都在使用互联网。
D. 互联网公众参与所产生的巨大潜力将在不久的将来显现出来。

【答案】B

【解析】本题可参照文章的第四段，从中可知 B 项为正确答案。

Text 3

There is a range of activities which require movements of about one to four or five miles. These might be leisure activities, such as moving from home to swimming pool, tennis club, the theater or other cultural centers, or to a secondary or more advanced school, or they might be movements associated with work and shopping in the central areas of cities. The use of cars capable of carrying five people at 80 mph for satisfying these needs is wasteful of space and most productive of disturbance to other road users.

The use of the bicycle, or some more modern derivative of it, is probably worth more consideration than has recently been given to it. The bicycle itself is a remarkably efficient and simple device for using human muscular energy for transportation. In pure energy terms, it is four to five times as efficient as walking, even though human walking itself is twice as efficient as the movement of effective animals such as dogs or gulls. It is still widely used, not only in some developing countries where bicycles are major means of people and goods, but in a few richer towns such as Amsterdam in Holland and Cambridge in England.

It usually gives inadequate protection from the weather, is not very suitable for carrying goods, and demands considerable muscular work to make progress against wind or uphill. It also offers its rider no protection against collisions with other vehicles. All these difficulties

could, however, be greatly eliminated, if not removed, with relatively small changes in design. The whole machine could be enclosed in a plastic bubble which would provide some protection in case of accidents. It would be easy to add a small petrol or electric motor. A wide variety of designs would be possible. As in rowing, we might employ the power of the arms or the general body musculature, as well as those of the legs; more muscular exercise would be good for the health of many people in cities, and a wide use of bicycle like muscle-powered vehicles would be a useful way to ensure this. It could also provide ample opportunities for showing off by the young and vigorous.

- The main idea of the first paragraph is that the car _____.
A. can satisfy the demand for speed
B. causes waste of space
C. produces disturbance to other road users
D. is far from perfect for short range movements
- More attention should be given to the bicycle as a means of transport because it is _____.
A. a very efficient and simple device
B. much cheaper than a car
C. widely used in Amsterdam and Cambridge
D. still used by rich people
- Enclosing the bicycle in a plastic bubble would _____.
A. make it easier to use.
B. save muscular energy.
C. provide protection from the weather.
D. prevent it from colliding with other vehicles.
- Which of these is untrue for the present bicycle?
A. It is far more efficient than the movement of animals.
B. It offers its rider no protection.
C. It is not very suitable for carrying goods.
D. It can hardly be improved on.

核心词汇注释

leisure ['leɪʒə(r)] *n.* 空闲, 闲暇, 悠闲, 安逸

associate [ə'səʊʃjət] *vt.* 使发生联系, 使联合
vi. 交往, 结交

n. 合伙人, 同事

adj. 联合的, 联盟的, 合伙的, 准的(会员)

disturbance [dɪ'stɜ:bəns] *n.* 骚动, 动乱, 打扰, 干扰, 骚乱, 搅动

derivative [dɪ'rɪvətɪv] *adj.* 引出的, 系出的

n. 派生的事物, 派生词

muscular ['mʌskjʊlə(r)] *adj.* 肌肉的, 强健的

inadequate [ɪn'ædɪkwət] *adj.* 不充分的, 不适当的

collision [kə'liʒ(ə)n] *n.* 碰撞, 冲突

eliminate [ɪ'lɪmɪneɪt] *vt.* 排除, 消除
v. 除去

bubble ['bʌb(ə)l] *n.* 泡沫, 幻想的计划

vi. 起泡, 潺潺地流

musculature ['mʌskjʊlətʃə(r)] n. 肌肉组织

长难句剖析

【文章难句】The use of cars capable of carrying five people at 80 mph for satisfying these needs is wasteful of space and most productive of disturbance to other road users.

【结构分析】本句的主干是 The use of cars...is wasteful of space and most productive, cars 的后置定语是形容词短语 capable of ...at 80 mph, for satisfying these needs 短语做主语 use 的目的状语。

【参考译文】开一辆时速 80 英里的、能载 5 个人的汽车去满足这些需要是对空间的浪费, 而且会给其他的行车者带来不少麻烦。

【文章难句】The use of the bicycle, or some more modern derivative of it, is probably worth more consideration than has recently been given to it.

【结构分析】本句的主干是 The use...is probably worth more consideration, or...it 与 bicycle 并列。consideration 后面是由 than 引导的定语从句。在英语语法中 than 不仅可以做比较副词, 还可以用来引导定语从句, 它在定语从句中的成分是关系代词。

【参考译文】骑普通的或是更加现代化的自行车或许值得我们给予更多的考虑。

【文章难句】It is still widely used, not only in some developing countries where bicycles are major means of people and goods, but in a few richer towns such as Amsterdam in Holland and Cambridge in England.

【结构分析】本句的主干是 It is still widely used, 后接由 not only in...but in 引导的地点状语。在第一个地点状语中, developing countries 后面接的是 where 引导的定语从句。在第二个地点状语中, a few richer towns 后面的 such as 引导的短语做补语。

【参考译文】自行车仍然被广泛使用着, 不仅一些发展中国家把自行车当作是主要的交通和运输工具, 而且少数几个较为富裕的城市, 像荷兰的阿姆斯特丹和英格兰的剑桥也是如此。

全文参考译文

有一系列的活动需要大约 1 至 4、5 英里的运动。这些运动可能是些休闲活动, 比如从家到游泳池、网球俱乐部、剧院或其他的文化中心, 或者是要去一家中学或大学, 或者可能与去市中心工作和购物活动有关。开一辆时速 80 英里、能载 5 人的汽车去满足这些需要是对空间的浪费, 而且会给其他的行车者带来不少麻烦。

骑普通的或是更加现代化的自行车或许值得我们给予更多的考虑。自行车本身是一种可以把人的体能转化为运输的非常有效的简单装置。从纯粹的能量上讲, 骑车的效率是步行的 4 到 5 倍, 虽然人类步行的效率已经比像狗或海鸥这样行动有效的动物要高一倍。自行车仍然被广泛使用着, 不仅一些发展中国家把自行车当作是主要的交通和运输工具, 而且少数几个较为富裕的城市, 像荷兰的阿姆斯特丹和英格兰的剑桥也是如此。

通常自行车无法不受天气的影响, 也不是很适合携带物品, 而且刮风和上坡的时候需要相当的体能才能前进。与其他交通工具相撞时骑车人得不到任何防护。但是所有这些困难即

使无法根除也能得到很好地解决,只要设计上做相对较小的改变。整辆车可以用塑料防护罩包起来,这样一旦发生事故可以提供一些防护。加个燃油或是电的发动机很容易。各种各样的设计都是可行的。在骑车过程中,我们不仅要使用双腿的力量,还要使用手臂和全身肌肉的力量;对于很多在城市中生活的人来说,更多的肌肉练习有益健康,广泛地把自行车当作肌肉练习的工具使用,将会是保证这一点的有效方法。这也可以给年轻又有活力的人提供大量的机会炫耀自己。

题目答案与解析

1. 第一段的主题是汽车_____。

- A. 可以满足速度的需求 B. 造成空间的浪费
C. 对其他的道路使用者产生干扰 D. 很不适合小范围的运动

【答案】D

【解析】本题的依据句是第一段的最后一句话 The use of cars capable of carrying five people at 80 mph for satisfying these needs is wasteful of space and most productive of disturbance to other road users. 从中可知, A、B、C 三项都不能完整地表达第一段的中心思想, 只有 D 项涵盖了前三项的意思, 因此是正确答案。

2. 作为交通工具, 自行车应该被给予更多的重视, 因为自行车_____。

- A. 是非常有效并且简单的设备 B. 比汽车要便宜
C. 在阿姆斯特丹和剑桥都广泛使用 D. 仍然被富人使用

【答案】A

【解析】本题的依据句是文章第二段的第二句话 The bicycle itself is a remarkably efficient and simple device for using human muscular energy for transportation. 从中可知 A 项为正确答案。

3. 把自行车装入塑料防护罩里将_____。

- A. 使其更容易使用 B. 节省肌肉能量
C. 避免坏天气 D. 防止与其他车辆相撞

【答案】D

【解析】本题的依据句是文章第三段的 The whole machine could be enclosed in a plastic bubble which would provide some protection in case of accidents. 从中可知 D 项为正确答案。

4. 关于现在的自行车, 以下各项中哪一项是错误的?

- A. 它比动物运动的效率要高的多。 B. 它无法为骑车人提供保护。
C. 它不适合运载货物。 D. 无法对它再进行改良了。

【答案】D

【解析】本题可参照文章的第二段。第二段介绍了如何通过改造来克服自行车的缺点, 因此 D 项为正确答案。

Test 4

Telecommuting — substituting the computer for the trip to the job — has been hailed as a solution

to all kinds of problems related to office work. For workers it promises freedom from the office, less time wasted in traffic, and help with child-care conflicts. For management, telecommuting helps keep high performers on board, minimizes lateness and absenteeism by eliminating commuters, allows periods of solitude for high-concentration tasks, and provides scheduling flexibility. In some areas, such as Southern California and Seattle, Washington, local governments are encouraging companies to start telecommuting programs in order to reduce rush-hour traffic and improve air quality.

But these benefits do not come easily. Making a telecommuting program work requires careful planning and an understanding of the differences between telecommuting realities and popular images. Many workers are seduced by rosy illusions of life as a telecommuter. A computer programmer from New York City moves to the quiet Adirondack Mountains and stays in contact with her office via computer. A manager comes in to his office three days a week and works at home the other two. An accountant stays home to care for her sick child; she hooks up her telephone modern connections and does office work between calls to the doctor.

These are powerful images, but they are a limited reflection of reality. Telecommuting workers soon learn that it is almost impossible to concentrate on work and care for a young child at the same time. Before a certain age, young children cannot recognize, much less respect, the necessary boundaries between work and family. Additional child support is necessary if the parent is to get any work done. Management, too, must separate the myth from the reality. Although the media has paid a great deal of attention to telecommuting, in most cases it is the employee's situation, not the availability of technology, that precipitates a telecommuting arrangement.

That is partly why, despite the widespread press coverage, the number of companies with work-at-home programs of policy guidelines remains small.

1. What is the main subject of the passage?
 - A. Business management policies.
 - B. Driving to work.
 - C. Extending the workplace by means of computers.
 - D. Computers for child-care purposes.
2. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a problem for employers that is potentially solved by telecommuting?
 - A. Employees' lateness for work.
 - B. Employees' absence from work.
 - C. Employees' need for time alone to work intensively.
 - D. Employees' conflicts with second jobs.
3. Which of the following does the author mention as a possible disadvantage of telecommuting?
 - A. Small children cannot understand the boundaries of work and play.
 - B. Computer technology is never advanced enough to accommodate the needs of every situation.
 - C. Electrical malfunctions can destroy a project.
 - D. The worker often does not have all the needed resources at home.